

# Attachment J

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## Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County

In re: Emily Noelle Mihaylo	Case No PB-2019-002031
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### Letter of Ward Requesting New Guardian Pursuant to ARS 14-5307 (B)

#### UNDER OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that the contents of this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

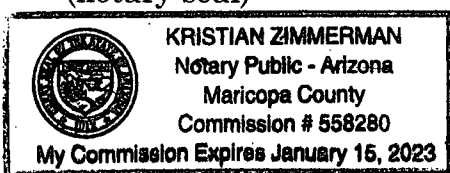
12/05/2020 Emily Mihaylo  
Date Signature

STATE OF ARIZONA  
COUNTY OF MARICOPA

Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me this: 12/05/2020  
(date)

by Emily Noelle Mihaylo

(notary seal)



[Signature]  
Deputy Clerk or Notary Public

December 04, 2020

To the Maricopa County Probate Court,

It angers me to see that I wasted a year of my life at a lockdown group home facility. Now that I have left that group home I find that being locked in a lockdown facility has left me emotionally fragile. I have asked my lawyer for a different Guardian many months ago. I asked him to get the ball rolling on that process. He did not do what I requested him to do. I am under the impression that working with the guardians appointed to me by the state of Arizona has been ingersum. I am not included in my own treatment and care. Is this because I am a ward of the state? My guardians, Compass Fiduciary, spent \$168,000 this year. Going over budget. If I had my rights reinstated I would not spend that sort of money in one year.

I have received no psycho-therapy, no treatment program, nothing that has benefited me. The guardians I have now did not follow protocol. They did not place me in a treatment center or get me specifically the therapy suggested in Dr. Textadors psych-evaluation. Instead they went to compliance hearings on my behalf claiming that things were going smoothly over the span of about a year.

Compass Fiduciary has told me personally that they are not sure what they are doing with me. This is unsettling when it comes to my care as a ward of the state. Housing me in a lockdown group home for behavioral health for 11 months, now a boarding home for Seniors. For \$3,300 a month, which is the cost of living at the boarding home, I could be living in a cozy 2 bedroom apartment.

I also am scared of the company that has all power over my life, my rights, and my freedom. Especially after I had sent several emails expressing my feelings to them, and they dismissed my pain. Leaving me in constant question of who I can turn to for support.

I know what I need to take care of myself regardless of what the psych-evaluation said that Dr. Textador took. Also I do not like Dr. Textador report, and wish to have a new psych-evaluation. I was very foggy the day I took the test with the Doctor. I had just been released about an hour before the test from a psychiatric facility.

As soon as I moved into my current location, about two weeks ago, I went out and gained employment. I did this because I was taking care of my needs. Not only would the 4 day shifts at a new job be good for my self esteem but also have a positive impact on my recovery from substance abuse. The company, my guardians, made me turn down the job, saying I need to focus on my recovery by participating more with the clinic Partners in Recovery.

Partners in Recovery is a state run program for the mentally ill. I only have a mental illness because of my past heavy substance abuse. Why do I have to take classes on mental illness when I took Abnormal Psychology in College? What is the explanation given to me from my support team as to why I am cornered into relapsing?

I said that I needed a job to support my ability to stay clean. Compass Fiduciary claimed I was moving too fast by starting work. Focusing on Partners in Recovery is something I am doing currently, because I have to please the guardians. It is just another isolating experience

that puts more stress on my day. My social anxiety goes up dramatically having to interact with strangers on Zoom support groups.

Now, based on the facts I would say that Compass Fiduciary should take responsibility for precipitating my substance abuse resurfacing. Emotionally, I am drained by the lack of understanding from my guardians. They made false promises since day one of their permanent guardianship and conservatorship. Saying I would have a sober companion who would take me out and do things with me.

A few weeks ago they said they would meet with me and go over a new budget for my allowance. They did not do this or even attempt to do so. Instead they surprise me one day with a hair follicle drug test. This test goes back 90 days, but does not show the current week. I had already informed them that I had slipped up and used drugs, but they proceeded to give me the test anyway. Why? Are they determined to catch me doing something wrong? A reason to hold me as a ward of the state longer? I don't know, but what I do know is this: careless words said to me that I feel are abusive.

Beth W., from Compass said the following:

"If you relapse more than once, have more than one offence, we are putting you in a lockdown facility again, and starting all over...."

This statement I find threatening in nature. I have the disease of addiction. Sometimes relapse happens more than one time. The threat to lock me up again and subjugate me to punishment after saying that they were not punishing me by keeping me in a lockdown facility. I have feelings, and I am being harassed by the current guardians. They want to put someone in a lockdown group home where people stay long term because they are not going to get better or improve. What is the point of such a decision made on my behalf. (Let's just make Emily Mihaylo suffer some more long term psychological anguish by locking her in a cage.)

This is how I see it. If I had a different guardian or had my rights reinstated the first thing I would do is get a paid psychiatrist. Then I would obtain a DBT/CBT therapist. I would move into a two or more bedroom apartment, and have a live in sober companion. I would then obtain an emotional support animal which I have been needing for over a year now. Once in therapy and psychiatry for a little over a month I would seek employment. This would be a job that is to just keep me busy so I would not have idle time. I would also do some volunteering once or twice a month.

In conclusion I would like to make the following requests of the Maricopa County Probate Court. As ward of the state I ask the state for a "substitution" of Sam Ricketts as legal guardian and conservator in place of Compass Fiduciary. I also request from the courts, two current psych-evaluations to assess my current needs. If this document needs to be filed by my Lawyer then I request a new Lawyer be appointed to me by Maricopa County, and that this letter be submitted to the courts.

Being a ward of the State is far more psychologically damaging in my opinion than having a normal life. If this is not the intention of the State of Arizona, and the courts would like to rectify the situation, please take action on my requests for a Substitution and a current psych-evaluation.

Sincerely,

Emily Mihaylo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Mihaylo', with a stylized flourish at the end.